

MLK Celebration Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

3-4:30 PM

Virtual - WebEx

Present: Bernard Greene, Rob Daves, Ann Kamensky, Bobbie Knable, Caitlin Starr, Lloyd Gellineau

Public: Jack Curtis

Minutes

1. Approve minutes 2/13/2020 – approved
 - a. Question of Kristin's payment was brought up. Rob will follow up with Kristin and get back to Caitlin ASAP.
2. Discussion of a Summer/Fall Event
 - a. the Committee would like to try to put a virtual event together regarding present topics.
 - b. Brookline specific or broader?
 - i. disparate health outcomes in context of COVID-19
 - ii. a conversation on policing
 - iii. how do we go beyond the typical conversation?
 - iv. BU - Cecilia Nardi - possible to do an introductory event with new faculty member Ibram X. Kendi? Possible other BU collab, maybe with Howard Therman Center, Raul?
 - v. Bernard mentioned Nika Elugardo potentially discussing Public Health Issues?
 - vi. Committee with solidify some ideas and reconvene in two weeks to discuss specific ideas and possible speakers.
 - c. Caitlin mentioned the Office's intent to hold a Mental Health and Racism Forum. Bernard mentioned David Williams as a potential speaker to address indicators of stress and social influences on health. Another possibility is to identify students/graduates that might have access to Dr. Williams work to present on his behalf. MLK Committed agreed that they would like to support this event.
3. MLK Day Event 2021
 - a. We are planning on a remote event.
 - b. Potential ideas for event include
 - i. Jack suggested two ideas: Folk Tales - Deep history of music and spirituals; Jack will send transcripts. Jack also asked that we all listen to MLK's FunTown Speech.
 - ii. MLK Speech and panel discussion
 - iii. Would like to focus on historic MLK.
 - iv. Rob mentioned that the Coolidge has licensing to show movies/clips online; maybe we could use video? Rob will speak with Mark and see what licensing they may have for some movies that would be related to MLK and possible collaboration.
 - v. Discussed role for individual students - reading a speech or poetry.
 - vi. Depending on the event it will be important to pre-record what we can and script what we can. Consider keeping the number of live presenters to a minimum.

4. Other Business

- a. Bobbie addressed our past conversations around School Curriculum. And posed the question of whether this was the time to have that conversation? We agreed to do some more questioning and community work, but hold off a larger conversation until later this year. Lloyd recommended talking to Barbra Brown and Abby Erbman as they would be knowledgeable community members regarding the topic. Ann is also interested in working on this with Bobbie.

5. Next meeting will be **Thursday June 25th** from 12pm-1:30pm virtually.